CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (currently amended):

A miter saw comprising:

a base assembly defining a cutting zone and configured to support a workpieces in the cutting zone;

a housing pivot arm assembly coupled to the base assembly and selectively movable pivotable toward and away from the cutting zone, where the pivot arm assembly includes a first housing, an arm extending between the base assembly and the first housing, a second housing, and at least one link interconnecting the base assembly and the second housing, where the pivot arm assembly is configured so that the second housing pivots relative to the first housing in a direction counter to the pivoting of the pivot arm assembly;

a rotatable arbor supported by the pivot arm assembly, where the arbor has an axis of rotation and where that axis of rotation is the axis around which the second housing pivots;

a rotatable blade supported by the arbor and positioned at least partially within the <u>first</u> housing and configured to cut workpieces supported within the cutting zone, where the blade has an angular momentum when rotated; and

a detection system configured to detect a dangerous condition between a person and the blade; and

Page 3 - FIRST AMENDMENT Serial No. 10/051,782 a braking system supported by the second housing and actuatable to step the rotation of decelerate the blade upon detection by the detection system of the dangerous condition, where the braking system is configured to transfer at least a pertion fraction of the angular momentum of the blade to the housing pivot arm assembly; and where the pivot arm assembly is further configured to use that angular momentum to urge the blade away from the cutting zone.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (withdrawn).

Claim 4 (withdrawn).

Claim 5 (currently amended):

The miter saw of claim 1 2, where the braking system includes a cartridge removably mounted on the second portion of the housing assembly, and where the cartridge includes a braking member configured to engage the blade.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended):

The miter saw of claim <u>5</u> 6, where the second portion of the housing assembly includes an exterior surface, and where the cartridge forms at least part of the exterior surface of the second portion of the housing assembly when the cartridge is mounted on the <u>second</u> housing assembly.

Claims 8-19 (withdrawn).

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A miter saw comprising:

a base assembly defining a cutting zone and configured to support a workpieces in the cutting zone;

a housing assembly coupled to the base assembly and selectively movable pivotable toward and away from the cutting zone, where the housing assembly includes first and second portions with an arm extending between the base assembly and the first portion and a link assembly interconnecting the base assembly and the second portion, where the second portion is pivotally connected to the first portion, and where the second portion is configured to pivot in a direction counter to the pivoting of the housing assembly;

a rotatable arbor supported by the housing assembly, where the arbor has an axis of rotation and where that axis of rotation is the axis around which the second portion of the housing assembly pivots;

a rotatable blade configured to cut <u>a</u> workpieces supported within the cutting zone, where the blade is supported at least partially within the housing assembly, and where the blade has angular momentum when rotating; and

braking means for stopping rotation of the blade upon the occurrence of one or more dangerous conditions, the braking means including means and for transferring at least a <u>fraction</u> portion of the angular momentum of the blade to the housing assembly.

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